

4. Those who do not worship the Lord are foolish.

Wisemen, The Path of.

II. THEY GAVE GIFTS:

1. They did not content themselves with mere pittance.
GOLD - the best they had.
2. Wisemen today will bring gifts to Christ - best they have
3. One cannot BELIEVE in Christ with ALL heart & LOVE
Lord with ALL the mind and do otherwise.
4. 2 Cor 8:5 - Must give self first.
~~or~~ or nothing will be accepted.
5. Do we bring our gifts in worship? or do we offer leftovers.
when we chance to attend?

CONCLUSION:

1. In following the path of these Wisemen, we will find
the course of wisdom today.
2. ARE YOU A WISE MAN?
Not only must you seek Christ, but you must
OBEY HIS WORDS (they shall judge you one day)

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INTRO:

- The Path of Wisemen Matt 2:1-12, ~~2:1-12~~
1. About only time people hear of birth of Christ is season called 'Christmas.'
 2. We do not know date or season - no authority to worship or celebrate his birth, if we knew the date.
 3. Always good & proper to study about his birth. Much said
 4. Many needed lessons, but we study one incident -
- THE VISIT OF THE WISEMEN:

I. THE PATH OF WISEMEN:

1. For us to learn from them & follow their example is to be wise.
2. They came from the east, but we know not the country, nor how many (3 or 300).
4. We do know they were WISE - DIVINE ASSURANCE.
(not always do we have wise men to teach us, but these were - thus worthy of our following.)
5. We cannot with propriety reject the instruction & example of wisdom.

II. THEY CAME SEEKING CHRIST:

1. A sure sign of wisdom. They sought Christ shortly after birth. Always been a part of wisdom to seek Christ. SO TODAY
2. TODAY - increasingly popular to refuse to seek Christ. Growing in numbers where seeking Jesus is frowned on.
Intellectuals today are discouraging seeking.
'Cor 1:21 - Wisdom of world cannot know God.
Rom 1:21,22 - become fools - unworthy of imitation.
3. All men seek something -
Those who lack true wisdom will seek inferior, worldly things as, power, riches, worldly honor, popularity, friends of world - Jas 4:4 -
Some things not wrong within themselves can be made wrong - if we seek them above Christ - dethrone Him

Even a good moral life without Christ is void of wisdom.

III. THESE WISEMEN DID NOT RELY UPON OWN WISDOM to find C.

1. Nor did they allow conscience or feelings to guide them.
 2. Human wisdom can never lead to Christ.
 3. Athenians (Acts 17:21) dwelt in human logic, but got no closer than "to an unknown God"
 4. Wisemen will not rely on own self - Jer 10:23
 5. STAR - divinely created & miraculously given. Mt 2:9
Nature will not guide man - makes idolaters.
Sun - sun-worshippers
Nile - Nile-worshippers
Nature alone leads to idolatry.
- The guide was divine - Came from God, could follow without fear.
They did not have to guess, nor wonder.
- SO TODAY - Our light (the word) divinely given & can be relied on.
We can have confidence in it & its guidance.
Not so with human creeds, wisdom.

IV. THEY WENT ALL THE WAY -

1. Came to Jerusalem (larger, more attractive than Bethlehem)
But these wisemen were not on sightseeing trip, far more important business - seeking Christ.
No doubt they had travelled a long distance, why not rest & see Jerusalem. NOT THESE WISE MEN
They went all the way, no place to stop short of finding Christ.
2. Matter not how enthusiastically one begins, it is finishing that counts Rev. 2:10 - 2 Tim 4:6,7 - Paul finished.

V. THEY WORSHIPPED HIM! (Herod sought Him to kill)

1. Not only did they find Him, but they worshipped.
Worshipping the Lord has always been evidence of wisdom.
2. One reason to find Jesus - to worship.
3. When we compare their great effort with our feeble excuses we can determine if we are wise or not.